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To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chair
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From: Jon W. Fullinwider
Chief Information Officer

Subject: **CUSTODY AUTOMATION PLAN UPDATE**

This memo is to provide you with an update on the status of the projects that make up the Coordinated Law Enforcement Justice Information Systems (CLEJIS) Committee's Custody Automation Plan.

BACKGROUND

Efforts between my office and the CLEJIS committee members produced the Custody Automation Plan, which your Board approved on October 14, 1997. The Plan delineates nine separate systems projects that were identified to address custody technology issues. The nine projects included:

- Jail Hospital Information System: Complete.
- Trial Courts Information System (TCIS)/Automated Jail Information System (AJIS) Interface: Unfinished, status included below.
- Defendant/Inmate Movement Management System: Complete.
- AJIS Replication: Complete.
- PC/LAN Infrastructure: Complete.
- LiveScan Interface: Complete.
- Incident/Disciplinary Tracking: Complete.
- AJIS Mainframe Replacement: Unfinished, status included below.
- Automated Warrant Check: Complete.

The two unfinished projects are the focus of this report.

THE TCIS/AJIS INTERFACE PROJECT:

APPLICATION	Planned Dates		Forecasted Dates	
	Start	Completion	Start	Completion
TCIS/AJIS Interface Project	8-7-1997	1-31-2000	8-7-1997	Unknown

Superior Court's TCIS will be electronically linked to the Sheriff's AJIS. This interface will improve the communication between the Courts and the Sheriff by replacing handwritten and manually delivered court orders with an automated transfer of custody orders from the Court's computer system to the Sheriff's computer system. Benefits include increased functionality for TCIS, more timely delivery of custody orders, increased legibility due to the elimination of handwritten court orders, and the elimination of redundant data entry of custody orders into AJIS. These improvements have the potential to reduce the occurrence of erroneous releases or over-detentions of inmates in the Sheriff's custody.

Status: As a result of numerous interruptions and budgetary shortages, the TCIS/AJIS interface project is now more than five years overdue. In September 2002, the project ran critically short of funding and the principal agencies involved in the project (Information Systems Advisory Body (ISAB) and Internal Services Department (ISD), Sheriff, and Superior Court) suspended all substantive work on the interface project. The principal agencies also stipulated that ISD would have to produce a fixed-price proposal clearly detailing how much more funding would be required to complete its work on the project.

ISD has completed its initial review of Superior Court's functional requirements and specifications and plans to release a fixed-price proposal by the end of October 2004 for funding consideration. Until approval is given by the ISAB membership to continue forward, no further work on the interface between the two systems is being performed, and no new projections for project completion can be determined. Once ISD issues their fixed-price proposal, ISAB will determine whether or not there are sufficient funds available to complete the project over the projected time period. If not, efforts will have to be made to identify additional sources of funding.

These issues notwithstanding, there is a further concern that the commitment necessary to see this project through to completion may be lacking. The length of time it has taken to finalize the functional requirements and specifications documents suggests that there have been and may continue to be other matters deemed more important to the involved departments than completing this project. Efforts on the part of this office to move that process along more quickly have been relatively unsuccessful, due to staffing and other resource-related problems experienced by the Superior Court.

Until this interface project is completed, there remains a risk that a defendant in the County's custody will be over-detained or erroneously released. Completing an automated interface between TCIS and AJIS will not totally eliminate that risk, but it will reduce the opportunities for information not reaching the Sheriff's Inmate Reception Control Center accurately and timely, which could cause defendants to be released who should not have been or for defendants to be detained beyond their legally prescribed detention periods.

Superior Court is now under State control and direction, which inhibits the County's ability to influence the setting of the Court's priorities and how it allocates and assigns its resources. Consequently, the progress of this project has been adversely affected by circumstances beyond the County's control, not the least of which were a series of major reductions in the Court's budget, resulting in facility closures, staff layoffs and reassignments, and a corresponding restructuring of its priorities.

THE JAIL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (JIMS) PROJECT:

APPLICATION	Planned Dates		Forecast Dates	
	Start	Completion	Start	Completion
AJIS Replacement Project	8-1-1998	4-1-2000	1-1-2001	To Be determined
Phase 1 Functionality	6-1-2004	11-18 2005	6-1-2004	11-18-2005
Phase 2 Functionality				To Be determined
Phase 3 Functionality				To Be determined

Originally known as the AJIS replacement project, the Sheriff has renamed the project the Jail Information Management System (JIMS). The Sheriff worked with ISD to competitively procure a commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) jail management software package from Syscon Justice Systems (Syscon). The vendor responses did not contain 100 percent of the jail management functionality that the Sheriff needs in the next generation jail information management software. Sheriff personnel have defined the functional gaps that exist between the standard jail management business processes and the additional jail management functionality needed by the Sheriff. Specifications for the additional functionality have been completed and the deliverables divided into three phases. The implementation contract for each phase will be submitted to your Board for approval. Your Board previously approved the implementation of Phase I functionality on December 2, 2003.

Phase 1 consists of inmate trust accounting, web access to inmate information, classification integration, case jacket tracking, property tracking, external agency billing, medical co-pay and XML and AJIS interfaces. Phase 2 includes inmate transfer/movement, inmate document control, facility checks/inmate counts, inmate administrative services, inmate activity tracking, visitation tracking, food services, work tracking and inventory control. Phase 3 consists of consolidated booking, management statistical and external systems interfaces.

Status: The inmate trust accounting deliverable has been accepted and the remaining deliverables are scheduled for completion by December 2005.

CONCLUSION:

Because of funding and other resource-related issues, this project has experienced numerous interruptions and restarts since its inception. There is no reason to believe that the next critical event in this project will produce different results. Because of budgetary constraints, funding to complete this project will continue to be scarce, especially in light of the Court's decision to reduce by half its contribution to the ISAB budget, where the funds to pay for this project will ultimately come.

In the meantime, the County continues to face a greater risk of defendants being released erroneously or detained beyond their legally prescribed detention period.

The JIMS project, formerly known as the AJIS replacement project, is in production at the Sheriff's data center. As deliverables are accepted and added to the production system, disparate systems within the Sheriff's data systems will be eliminated. Phase I is scheduled for completion on November 18, 2005.

The next report will be completed and submitted to your offices on March 18, 2005.

JWF:JH:sjc

c: Sheriff Leroy D. Baca
David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Raoul Freeman, Chair, Information Systems Commission
Chief Michael Aranda, Sheriff's Department
Chief Charles Jackson, Sheriff's Department

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